[This transcript was created by LAI staff. It is as true a representation of the original as we could create. When a word was too difficult to decipher or was questionable we put those words in brackets. All text in brackets represents the voice of the transcriber rather than the voice of the letter writer. We have not maintained the spacing that exists in the original letters because that was not compliant with our accessibility standards. We are left justifying most lines.]

[citation information]
Collection title: Corcoran Gallery of Art and Corcoran College of Art + Design, Corcoran Gallery of Art directors' records
Collection number: COR-0002-0-RG
Series 1: MacLeod, Barbarin and McGuire records
Subseries 1: Indexed correspondence
Box 2008-001
Folder 37: Letters 361-370

[Front of Letter 361]
Walters, W.T., Balt., July 24, 1874
July 25/27 /74
Bill of Lading received. The two cases will go by the Str Columbia.

[Letter 361]

Balto 24th July 74
Mr. Wm. MacLeod

D Sir,

I received the bill of lading and no doubt the cases will go tomorrow by Steamer Columbia.

I do not think there will be any chance of getting the letter from the Custom House of Lherbette & Kane [illegible]

I will be more likely to get down when in about 2 weeks the 2 other pictures come & then the Leghorn casts may also have arrived.

You will see in last no of Illustrated London News a good cut of the “Speaking Well”.

Your friend,
W.T. Walters

[Front of Letter 362]

Walters, W.T., Balt., July 25/74
July 27/27 /74
Encloses Steam Boat receipt for two cases

[Letter 362]

Mr. MacLeod

Dear Sir,

I enclosed receipt for cases. You will receive them [illegible] it by Tuesday - let me know how you like the pictures, please.

Your friend,
W.T. Walters

[Enclosed receipt from Charles Worthington, Agent, Baltimore, Washington, Alexandria and Georgetown, Steam Boat Company, for two cases containing pictures]

[Front of Letter 363]
Walters, W.T., Balt., July 28, 1874
Recd & Ansd July 29
Has recd Invoice, will make an effort to have the cases sent to Washg by mail

[Letter 363]

Balto. 28th July 74

Mr. MacLeod

I have the Invoice [illegible] -

I will make an effort to have this lot loaded directly in Cars of Washington [Rail?] at Steamer landing - This would I think make less risk of breakage for Casts - You could have them taken directly from the Cars -

I had better have the Italian go down one day before you receive the things - had I not? It will be 10 days yet I judge before you get them -

Respectfully,
W.T. Walters

[Front of Letter 364]
Walters, W.T., Balt., July 29/74
July 30/30 /74
With regard to the new pictures & Casts. India Gate etc.

[Letter 364]

Balto 29th July 74

Mr. McLeod,

I have your letter and was glad to know the pictures satisfied you so well - but you know the 2 best of [them?] are yet to come.

You should be ready to go to work on the Paris Casts promptly I think to make way for the Rome ones which should reach here 10 days or 2 weeks later.

There will be no doubt some cases too large to go into your opening and will have to be opened on the street.

Have you not now as large a proportion of Landscapes to Figures as will be found in any good collection here or abroad - we must anything which will make the Collection stronger and more interesting and in this respect we must go upward not backward - we should be teachers - looked up to - now down to - every [illegible] [illegible] we have a right to be expected to make our Collection stronger - we want a few good American Landscapes - and we are looking for them all the time - but the ordinary run of wash in that way I hope will never have a place there. Then are not several of the things sent by Mr. Lucas now large landscape - The [Judia?] Gates I know very well + are greatly beyond our scope, if our space were 5 times as great even. The [Kensington?] Museum has more space than is contained within the walls of the U.S. Capitol building - and has spent more in one year than our whole endowment - I of course take it the casts are not all [indis..?] [illegible] [illegible] [mea..?] Capital -

Your friend,
W.T. Walters

[Front of Letter 365]
Treasury, Secretary of, July 29, 1874
July 30/74
Has given the usual instructions to C.H. Officer at Balt. to pass 22 cases to the Gallery.

[Letter 365]

[Letterhead of the Treasury Department, Washington, D.C.]
July 29, 1874

Sir,

In compliance with your request of the 27th instant the Collector at Baltimore has been instructed to admit to entry free of duty and without examination at that port certain 20 cases Plaster Casts and 2 cases Oil Paintings and Frames, expected to arrive per “Ohio” from Southampton for the Corcoran Gallery of Art.

On their arrival you will please advise the Collector at Georgetown and allow the cases to remain unopened until the necessary examination and appraisement can be made by him.

I am Very respectfully
J.F. Hartley, Assistant Secretary

Mr. F.S. Barbarin, Assistant Curator, Corcoran Gallery of Art, Washington, D.C.

[Letter 366]

[Letterhead of Lherbette Kane & Co., North German Lloyd Steamships]
Paris, July 13th 1874
per [Neikow?]

A. Hyde, Esq., Secretary Corcoran Gallery of Art, Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir,

Enclosed we beg to hand you legalised invoice of [20 x CGW 1001/20 + 2 x “Corcoran Gallery” 17/8?], which we will ship per “Ohio” from Southampton 18th inst.

We are, Dear Sir, Yours respectfully,
Lherbette Kane Co.

[Back of Letter 366]
Lherbette Kane & Co., Paris July 13/74
July 27/74
Encloses Invoice of 22 Cases, shipped per Str “Ohio” from Southampton, 18th inst. Note - Invoice sent Mr. Walters July 27th.

[Front of Letter 367]
Walters, W.T., Balt., Aug 1, 1874
Aug 3/74, 3/74
Steamer arrived last night. Will send the Casts by rail. With regard to the Italian.

[Letter 367]

Balto, 1st Aug 74

Mr. MacLeod,

The Steamer arrived last night - I will endeavor to get the Casts off by rail. I hope by middle of next week.

I take it the Italian whom I will send down in time will prove as he is represented skillful in Plaster work - if he is not sufficiently so to perform the mechanical work without instruction or direction for any and about the Gallery I would by all means send him off and get another person - he appears to be a very modest and unassuming man, too much so I think.

Mr. Rinehart employed him here and elsewhere in part 10 years to cast his models in Plaster, I should think 30 works and I know he didn't regard it necessary for him to be present even - for the Academy of Art here he had entire charges without any direction or need for it, of just such work as you propose to employ him for - but please recollect I only know of him by hearsay - I have no knowledge of him personally - but you will be able to judge yourself all about this after he begins - he has a respectable place of business here - by the way he understands his own language much better than english.

I will advise you the day before the things go down.

Respectfully,
W.T. Walters

[Letter 368]

Balto 4th Aug 74

Mr. MacLeod

I have your letter of yesterday.

Today at 12 O'clk one car was filled with the Cases and the balance they assured us would be loaded and be in Washington tomorrow morning, and I so telegraphed you.

You had better have someone at Station to see the cases are properly handled and that they are not pitched out of the Cars so as to endanger the contents.

When I first spoke to the Italian he named 4$ per day as his wages - but I have avoided as far as details and conserved any conversation with him, so that he might be impressed it was you had all to do with him, you had better therefore get him to confirm what he said to me about wages - I suspect you will have much less [work?] with him than the other party whom I judge was too [great?] a man.

I have seen the Italian who says he will go down in morning soon - I expect to leave home Saturday and be absent until the following Tuesday - I may not get down to see you before my return, if not will go down immediately thereafter.

The two Cases Paintings will no doubt go down with the Casts.

Respectfully,
W.T. Walters

[Back of Letter 368]
Walters, W.T., Balt. Aug 4, 1874
Aug 5/74, 5/74
Two cars with Cases will be in Washington Aug 5. With regard to reception of them. Italian will leave for Washington tomorrow. Will be at the Gallery next week.

[Front of Letter 369]
Walters, W.T., Balt., Aug 5, 1874
Rcvd. Aug 6/74
With regard to receipt of Cases

[Letter 369]

Balto. 5th Aug 74
Mr. MacLeod

Dear Sir,

After the receipt of your Tele I inquired & got the enclosed answer from the Steamship + RR Office.

If tomorrow you have received the cases I would be glad to hear from you. If not please write Monday or Tuesday [will?] be time enough and have the Pictures appear.

I hope now the Leghorn vessel will not arrive for 2 or 3 weeks.

Your friend,
W.T. Walters
Did the Italian go down?

[Letter 370]

London, July 12, 1874
Mr. W.T. Walters, Trustee

Dear Sir,

I attended to the order for the Corcoran Gallery, for the Electrotype reproductions and worked very hard at Kensington Museum and at the works of Mr. [Franchi?]; he kindly came over, and old and [feeble?] as he is, spent [near?] the entire day, comparing notes with me.

The order came at a fortunate moment, for he had just made arrangements with the consent of the Kensington Museum to transfer his business to Elkington & Co., and they engage him at a salary to superintendent and, of course, a new tariff of prices is to made augmenting very much, which will place prices 25 to 30 percent higher. I omitted some of the things, which in New [York?] were more or less duplicates and substituted others, adding also some which I considered very important; some of these are from private collections and may be produced only on permission from the parties, and which I have applied for on behalf of your Museum. If all can be gotten, the amount will go over the £600, say £647, and all at old prices.

From the state of [Franchi's?] health, I doubt if he will be long able to attend to business, and I feel sure they won't find another so able and so faithful. I have a memorandum from him of each article and wrote in catalogue, with the prices, and which I will retain and deliver you, and which I have formally ordered on your behalf. They cannot be done under six (6) months.

One of the things I hope to get is the Bell of St Patrick, a fac=simile of a gold bell square said to have belonged to that Saint, a very rich piece of middle age work, and as it is re=produced with imitations of the stones, Emeralds and Rubies, the effect is very rich, and the historic and religious associations, will make it an interesting feature. Another is the Sceptre of Anne Boleyn, reproduced in ivory and gold bands, and crown 2 ½ ft. the original is in the Tower, and is a very handsome thing. I hope the excess of my order will be endorsed, and be attributed to the desire to make the collection as interesting as possible, and for as near as the sum of £600 as possible.

Mr. Wallis and Mr. [Franchi?] strongly recommended you should have the same selections which they had made for the collections of such objects, which are reproduced by Leonich freres, of Paris, from things in the Muser de Artillerie, at Paris. Those which they had at the Kensington Museum numbered 18 pieces, including one suit of armor, originally belonging to Henri II, casque of Francis 1st. Some of these pieces were made by “Celini”. The cost of the whole, as paid by the Kensington Museum, was 5090 francs; it might now be a trifle more. Should your trustees think proper to order those, you will have time to authorize me to do so before I return; the addition would be a very valuable one for you.

Respectfully,
S.P. Avery

[Back of Letter 370]
Avery, S.P., London, July 12,1874
(To W.T. Walters)
Has attended to the order for the Electrotype reproductions. Has omitted some things and substituted others. The amount will go over the £600, say £647. Hopes the excess will be endorsed. Recommends ordering an additional collection at a trifle over 5090frs, of some things in the Muser de Artillerie at Paris.